

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12

ARA-06 IO-11 SAM-01 /083 W
----- 061977

R 271746Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3642
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 0526

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, AO, SG

SUBJECT: OAU SUMMIT FEEDBACK

1. SUMMARY: GOS DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS RECAPPED
OAU MINISTERIAL AND SUMMIT MEETINGS IN JAN. 26 MEETING WITH
AMBASSADOR. MODERATES HAD BEEN WELL-ORGANIZED AND DISCIPLINED,
BUT THEIR EFFORTS AT COMPROMISE HAD BEEN STYMIED BY REFUSAL
OF MPLA SUPPORTERS TO CRITICIZE USSR AND CUBA AND THEIR
OPPOSITION TO CEASE-FIRE. EFFORTS BY TWO FIVE-MEMBER NEGO-
TIATING COMMITTEES HAD DEGENERATED INTO ACRIMONY, PARTICULARLY
BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUE AND IVORY COAST. NIGERIAN DIPLOMACY
WAS ESPECIALLY CRUDE. SENEGALESE BELIEVE TOGO AND UGANDA
ARE MOST LIKELY POINTS WHERE EROSION OF MODERATE RANKS MIGHT
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OCCUR. GOS FONMIN CONSIDERING TRIP TO RALLY SUPPORT FOR

MODERATE POSITION SOMETIME BETWEEN LATE FEBRUARY AND JUNE
OAU SUMMIT. END SUMMARY.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO JAN, 22 MEETING ON ANGOLA WITH PRESIDENT SENGHOR (DAKAR 436), AMBASSADOR CALLED ON DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS KANDE JAN. 26 TO OBTAIN HIS REACTIONS TO OAU SUMMIT. KANDE TOOK EVIDENT PRIDE IN DISCIPLINED HANDLING OF SUMMIT BY MODERATES UNDER SENEGALESE LEADERSHIP, PARTICULARLY THROUGH PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S "DETERMINANT" INTERVENTION. HE RECOUNTED HOW HE HAD CONFERRED WITH EACH DELEGATION BOARDING PLANE ALONG WEST AFRICAN COAST BEFORE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING (GAMBIA, SIERRA LEONE, LIBERIA, IVORY COAST) TO ENSURE COMMON POSITION. (HOWEVER, HE NOTED EMBARRASSMENT SUFFERED BY PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE OF NIGER WHOSE GOVERNMENT UNEXPECTEDLY ANNOUNCED RECOGNITION OF MPLA WHILE KOUNTCHE WAS FLYING TO ADDIS ABABA ABOARD PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S AIRCRAFT.) KANDE DESCRIBED HOW MODERATES HAD ARRANGED FOR UNITA/FNLA TO SUMMIT APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO OAU ALONGSIDE THAT OF MPLA SO THAT UNPRECEDENTED SITUATION OF TWO RIVAL APPLICATIONS WOULD BE CREATED, JUSTIFYING ARGUMENT THAT IMPORTANT QUESTION REQUIRING TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY HAD ARISEN. HE ALSO DESCRIBED MODERATES' EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD HAVE EXPLICITLY CONDEMNED FOREIGN INTERVENTION BY SOUTH AFRICA, USSR, CUBA, US AND FRANCE. HOWEVER, MPLA SUPPORTERS LED BY GUINEA AND FORMER PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES WERE ADAMANT IN REFUSING TO JOIN CALL FOR CEASE-FIRE.

3. KANDE SAID TO FIVE-NATION NEGOTIATING COMMITTEES (MENTIONED BY ADDIS ABABA 0417) WHICH MADE LAST-DITCH EFFORT FOR COMPROMISE NEAR SUMMIT'S END CONSISTED OF NIGERIA (CHAIRMAN), MOZAMBIQUE, TANZANIA, GUINEA AND SOMALIA ON ONE SIDE, WITH SENEGAL (CHAIRMAN), ZAMBIA, LIBERIA, MOROCCO AND IVORY COAST ON THE OTHER. DEBATE, HOWEVER, DEGENERATED INTO EXTREME ACRIMONY. MOZAMBIQUE DENIGRATED VIEWS OF IVORY COAST AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH HAD NOT FOUGHT FOR THEIR FREEDOM, PROMPTING IVORY COAST REJOINDER THAT IT HAD INDEED ENGAGED IN REAL STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND THAT FRELIMO LEADERS HAD BEEN SEEN OFTEN ENOUGH DEPARTING HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S OFFICE WITH "HEAVY ENVELOPES." KANDE WAS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL OF CRUDE DIPLOMACY OF NIGERIAN MINEXTAFF GARBA,
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QUOTING PROVERB TO EFFECT THAT MOST RECENT CONVERTS ARE MOST ZEALOUS.

4. SENEGAL WAS NOW MOST CONCERNED ABOUT FIRMNESS OF UGANDAN AND TOGOLESE POSITIONS ON NONRECOGNITION. TOGOLESE HAD ADMITTED THEY WERE BEING SUBJECTED TO CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE BY NIGERIA, THOUGH PERHAPS NOT SO MUCH AS WAS NIGER. KANDE DISPLAYED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN AMBASSADOR'S

SUGGESTION THAT SIERRA LEONE WAS ALSO BEING SUBJECTED TO PRESSURE FROM OTHER ANGOLPHONES AND SHOULD BE ADDED TO VULNERABLE LIST. KANDE RETURNED CONVERSATION TO SIERRA LEONE ON SUBSEQUENT OCCASIONS, OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED OVER DANGER OF SIERRA LEONE DEFECTION.

5. KANDE SAID FOREIGN MINISTER SECK WAS CONSIDERING TRIP TO SEVERAL AFRICAN CAPITALS UPON COMPLETION OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S FEBRUARY TRIP TO CARIBBEAN (DAKAR 0495) TO RALLY SUPPORT FOR MODERATE POSITION IN INTERIM BEFORE JUNE OAU SUMMIT ON MAURITIUS. HE AGREED FULLY WITH AMBASSADOR'S OBSERVATION ON NEED TO REMAIN VIGILANT TO AVOID LOSING SUPPORT ON MODERATE SIDE, AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR WIRELESS FILE MATERIALS ON ANGOLA PROVIDED BY AMBASSADOR. AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LOBBYING, SUMMIT MEETINGS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAKAR00526
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760032-0380
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760119/aaaaaqew.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAU SUMMIT FEEDBACK
TAGS: PFOR, AO, SG, MPLA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006